

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA
BOARD OF MARRIAGE
AND FAMILY THERAPY**

In the Matter of the
License of R. John Singh, L.F.M.T.
Date of Birth: 1/25/32
License Number: 0027

**STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

WHEREAS, on or about August 26, 1998, the Complaint Panel of the Minnesota Board of Marriage and Family Therapy ("Board") instituted the above-captioned matter by serving upon R. John Singh, L.F.M.T. ("Respondent") a document entitled, "Notice of Conference With Complaint Panel" ("Notice"); and

WHEREAS, on November 11, 1998, Respondent and members of the Complaint Panel met in a conference to discuss the allegations set forth in the Notice and the matter was continued pending additional investigation; and

WHEREAS, on or about February 16, 2001, the Complaint Panel served upon Respondent a document entitled, "Amended Notice of Conference with Complaint Panel" ("Amended Notice") that included allegations based on additional investigation and new allegations received since the institution of this matter; and

WHEREAS, Respondent has been advised by Board representatives that he may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter. Respondent has chosen to be represented by Marlene S. Garvis, Jardine Logan & O'Brien, 2100 Piper Jaffray Plaza 444 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2160, (651) 290-6569. The Complaint Panel was represented by Monte G. Miller, Assistant Attorney General, 1400 NCL Tower, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101, (651) 296-7575; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to resolve this by entering into this stipulation;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between Respondent and the Board as follows:

A. During all times material herein, Respondent has been and now is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board from which he holds a license to practice marriage and family therapy in Minnesota.

B. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this stipulation, it shall be deemed withdrawn and of no evidentiary value and shall not be introduced or relied on by either party; except that Respondent agrees that, should the Board reject this stipulation and if this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of the stipulation or of any records relating hereto.

C. Respondent expressly waives formal hearing on all facts and legal conclusions referenced herein and any and all procedures before the Board relative to said facts and conclusions to which he might otherwise be entitled by law.

D. In the interest of settling this matter and avoiding the necessity for further proceedings, the Board may consider the following facts as true for the purpose of this stipulation. Respondent denies the truth of the allegations, but willingly enters into this Stipulation and Order. It is the intent of the parties that this stipulation and the facts set forth herein shall have no collateral estoppel effect, res judicata effect or other preclusive effect, and no evidentiary value in any action or proceeding in any forum or process other than proceedings before the Minnesota Board of Marriage and Family Therapy or another authorized licensing board or licensing agency. Nothing in this paragraph shall limit or affect the Board's obligation to fulfill any reporting requirements.

1. The Board has credible evidence to support findings that Respondent engaged in unprofessional conduct, failed to allow a client access to his therapy records, failed to allow clients the number of therapy sessions or services they requested or needed, and failed to appropriately manage the termination of the client/therapist relationship.

2. The Board has credible evidence to support findings that, with regard to clients referenced in the Amended Notice, Respondent engaged in unprofessional and/or unethical conduct in that he failed to maintain appropriate client/therapist boundaries, failed to maintain complete and accurate therapy and billing records, misrepresented or provided misleading information about his educational and marriage and family therapy credentials, and engaged in questionable and improper billing practices, including, but not limited to misrepresenting the extent and nature of therapy provided to certain clients.

3. The Board views Respondent's practices as inappropriate in such a way as to require Board action under Minnesota Statutes §§ 148B.32 and 148B.37 and Minnesota Rules 5300.0100 and 5300.0350.

4. Respondent has communicated to the Board that he intends to retire from the practice of marriage and family therapy and will close his practice effective June 30, 2001.

E. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that upon this stipulation the Board may forthwith adopt and implement the following Order:

a. Licensee shall permanently surrender his license to practice marriage and family therapy in Minnesota effective June 30, 2001. All state licenses and certificates shall be surrendered to the Board within ten days of June 30, 2001.

b. Licensee shall not practice, attempt to practice, offer to practice, or advertise or hold out as authorized to practice marriage and family therapy in Minnesota or any

other jurisdiction, and shall not use a title or any designation which indicates marriage and family therapy licensure.

c. Upon Licensee's surrender of his license to practice marriage and family therapy in Minnesota, the Board agrees to close its files in this matter.

d. Licensee agrees not to reapply for licensure in Minnesota or any other jurisdiction now or at any time in the future. Should Licensee violate this provision, the Board may reopen its investigation.

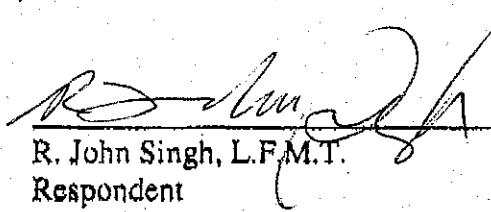
F. IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that this stipulation shall not in any way limit or affect the authority of the Board to initiate administrative contested case proceedings against Respondent on the basis of any act, conduct or omission of Respondent occurring after the date of this stipulation which is not related to the facts, circumstances or requirements referenced hereinabove, nor does this stipulation in any way limit or affect the Board's authority to seek injunctive relief or criminal sanctions against Respondent for any violation of Minn. Stat. § 148B.32 occurring after the effective date of the Order herein.

G. This is a public document. Nothing herein shall preclude the Board from providing copies upon request. The Board may also publish and share the document pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 148B.13 and 148B.04 including any data banks that require the reporting of disciplinary actions taken.

H. Respondent was advised to seek the advice of legal counsel prior to executing this stipulation. This stipulation was read in its entirety by Respondent prior to its execution. He understands all of its provisions; and he affirms that it was entered into freely and voluntarily by him.

I. This stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies this stipulation.

J. Respondent hereby knowingly and voluntarily waives any and all claims against the Board, the Minnesota Attorney General, the State of Minnesota and their agents, employees and representatives relative to the action taken or authorized against Respondent's marriage and family therapy license under this stipulation.


R. John Singh, L.F.M.T.
Respondent

ORDER

Upon consideration of this stipulation and all of the files, records and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the terms of this stipulation are adopted and implemented by the Board this 20 day of April, 2001.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY



Chair